

Hello Committee members,

Thank you for taking the time and energy to read and listen to the public on this issue of the use of the water in this great state of California. I attended the hearing in Costa Mesa and wanted to comment on the responses in that meeting as well as give my ideas on this whole water issue.

1. **THERE IS ONLY SO MUCH WATER:** There will never be enough water to satisfy all of the parties involved in this project. Each of the parties (water districts, farmers, environmentalist, and recreation enthusiast) will never get all of what they want. It is important that all of these groups participate in the conception of this plan so that compromises will be made equally across the spectrum.
2. **CONSERVATION:** Water districts want more high quality water, farmers want their share, environmentalist wants habitat restored or saved, and recreationist want access. What does this project do to give credit or something to the users for conservation? Its like what do I get for saving gas all of these years by driving small cars or what do I get for conserving water at home. Even more importantly what do I get for only having two children? All of my efforts to conserve and not waste are only repaid by saving in cost. Allowing abusers or over users to continue to waste as long as they pay for it. Money is the sole way to control overuse. It seems like if the users don't use it, it will be lost, with no credit for conservators or penalty for over users. The attitude is that if you don't use your allotment you loose it to those that don't put any effort into conserving. Are we going to use this resource up until it is gone forever? This has happened to many of the worlds' great civilizations. These civilizations used all of the resources to there capacity and did not tenor their growth (economic and population) to protect those resources of water and land. They just thought that growth was good in all areas of society. Economic power and control became one and eventually those civilizations have since deteriorated into today's third world countries. (Peru, Mexico, Egypt, India, China) Success in a society can not only be measured by growth in profits. We need to think of leadership in ways to make a sustainable society by connecting the economy with the environment. We must temper our growth by understanding what damage it may cause. We must prevent the environment from being destroyed. This will ultimately destroy our society and economy.
3. **WHAT IS GROWTH:** I was amazed at the response from the large number of water districts that were only concerned with more water and plans for growth. Our Economy depends on growth it seems and they only want to turn on the facet more rather than protect the source of water in the first place. The Comment that stands out in my mind was about the fish "Are fish more important than People" All of the special interest groups are only focused on their own wishes and not looking at the whole picture. In the animal world each species is only able to grow to a certain size and then it just maintains the status quo until its death. Our economy can improve but not at the expense of degrading our environment. I want the environment to be the One single factor that leads us down the road of water use and not the demands of farmers and water districts. **THE REAL PROBLEM IS POPULATION AND THE CONSTANT INCREASE IN IT AND THE NEED FOR MORE WATER TO FEED THESE MASSES.** A sustainable economy is one that tempers its growth by watching and caring for its resources. We need to use the environment as a litmus paper to help stop abusive growth connected to short term profits. Southern California should not be allowed to grow at its current rate. Real estate is the driving force and population is viewed as growth. Cities encourage building and short-term profits from it as growth. A sustainable society looks at the long-term effects of this growth and plans to prevent the damage to habitat before it happens.
4. **Use the environment as an indicator of Human overuse;** That means simply to not make any more dams, no more water degradation, discourage the success of our economy being measured buy dollars gained only, no Dukes Ditch, no more water subsidies to wasteful irrigation practices. Most important enforce the pollution laws and practice sustainable environmental practices, this will insure humans naturally coexisting with our environment. Let us control damaging population growth. This is the biggest cause of environmental problems.

Thank you so much for considering my input,  
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